

40055-0001

10/635,362

IN THE CLAIMS:

The status and content of each claim follows.

1. (currently amended) A method for enhancing a value of a piece of furniture as an heirloom by storing handwritten writings on [[a]] said piece of furniture, wherein said piece of furniture is made of wood, said method comprising:

manufacturing said piece of furniture to be sold to a purchaser for whom said piece of furniture will become said heirloom;

after sale of said piece of furniture to said purchaser, preparing one or more handwritten writings by hand directly on the wood of which said piece of furniture is made, wherein said handwritten writings enhance said value of said piece of furniture as an heirloom as compared to said piece of furniture as purchased from a manufacturer absent said handwritten writings; and

storing said handwritten writings on said piece of furniture,

wherein said furniture comprises a member comprising a surface of said wood that is specifically configured to permanently receive said handwritten writings.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising preparing said member with markings to facilitate placement of said writings on said member.

3. (original) The method of claim 2, further comprising moving said member from a retracted position to an exposed position prior to storing said writings.

40055-0001

10/635,362

4. (previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein said member comprises a plank.
5. (previously presented) The method of claim 4, wherein said moving said member comprises sliding said plank to said exposed position.
6. (previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein said member comprises a drawer.
7. (original) The method of claim 6, wherein said moving said member comprises sliding said drawer to said exposed position.
8. (original) The method of claim 3, further comprising protecting said writings with said piece of furniture when said member is in said retracted position.
9. (previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein said writings commemorate a specific time in history, person, or historical event.
10. (original) The method of claim 9, wherein said writings comprise a signature.
11. (original) The method of claim 9, wherein said writings comprise a date.

40055-0001

10/635,362

12. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said preparing one or more writings is performed by carving, wood burning, etching, brushing, or imprinting said at least one handwritten writing on said surface of wood.

13. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising storing memorabilia associated with said writings in a storage compartment in said piece of furniture.

14. (previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein said markings comprise grooves in said surface of wood.

15. (original) The method of claim 14, wherein said writings are organized into parallel rows using said grooves as guides.

16-27. (cancelled)

28. (currently amended) A method for enhancing a value of a piece of furniture as an heirloom by storing handwritten writings on said piece of furniture, wherein said furniture comprises a member that is specifically configured to permanently receive said handwritten writings, said method comprising:

manufacturing said piece of furniture to be sold to a purchaser for whom said piece of furniture will become said heirloom; and

40055-0001

10/635,362

~~The method of claim 1, further comprising~~ specifically designating said member as being intended to receive said handwritten writings in materials presented with said furniture when said furniture is offered for sale and has not yet received said handwritten writings.

29. (cancelled)

30. (previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein said markings comprise a genealogical form.

31. (previously presented) The method of claim 30, wherein said genealogical form comprises a family tree.

32. (previously presented) The method of claim 30, wherein said genealogical form comprises a pedigree chart.

33. (new) The method of claim 1, further comprising specifically designating said member as being intended to receive said handwritten writings in materials presented with said furniture when said furniture is offered for sale and has not yet received said handwritten writings.